non-NASA service to be delivered without compromising the mission objectives of any individual user. To encourage users toward achieving efficient TDRSS usage, this reimbursement policy has been established to purposely influence users to operate with TDRSS in the most efficient and orderly manner possible. Additionally, the reimbursement policy is designed to comply with the Bureau of the Budget Circular A–25 on User Charges, dated September 23, 1959, which requires that a reasonable charge should be made to each identifiable recipient for a measurable unit or amount of Government service or property from which a special benefit is derived.

[56 FR 28048, June 19, 1991]

§ 1215.101 Scope.

This subpart sets forth the policy governing TDRSS services provided to non-U.S. government users and the reimbursement for rendering such services. It excludes TDRSS services provided as standard or optional services to Space Transportation System (STS) users under existing policy for Shuttle and Spacelab (14 CFR subparts 1214.1, 1214.2, and 1214.8); i.e., user command and telemetry support, which utilizes and is a part of the Shuttle or Spacelab communications system, is a Shuttle/Spacelab service. Cooperative missions are also not under the purview of this subpart. The arrangements for TDRSS services for cooperative missions will be covered in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), as a consequence of negotiations between NASA and the other concerned party. Any MOU which includes provision for any TDRSS service will require signatory concurrence by the Associate Administrator for Space Operations prior to dedicating Office of Space Operations resources for support of a cooperative mission.

[56 FR 28048, June 19, 1991]

§ 1215.102 Definitions.

(a) *User*. Any non-U.S. Government representative or entity who contracts with NASA to use TDRSS services.

(b) *TDRSS*. The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System including Tracking and Data Relay Satellites (TDRS), the White Sands Ground Terminal (WSGT), and the necessary TDRSS operational areas, interface devices and NASA communication circuits to unify the above into a functioning system. It specifically excludes the user ground system/TDRSS interface.

(c) *Bit stream*. The digital electronic signals acquired by TDRSS from the user craft or the user generated input commands for transmission to the user craft.

(d) *Flexible support*. Support requests which permit NASA, at its option, to schedule service at any time during the period of a single orbit of the user mission. Missions requiring multiple support periods during a single orbit may be classified as constrained support.

(e) *Constrained support*. Support requests which specify the exact times NASA is to provide service, or conditions of support which can be translated into exact times for service, such as sub-satellite positions, apogee/perigee position, etc., for which support is needed.

(f) *Scheduling service period*. One scheduled contact utilizing a single TDRS whereby the user by requesting service is allotted a block of time for operations between the user satellite and TDRSS.

§ 1215.103 Services.

(a) *Standard services*. These are services which the TDRSS is capable of providing to low-earth orbital user spacecraft or other terrestrial users.

(1) Tracking services.

(2) Data acquisition service.

(3) Command transmission service.

(4) Emergency line outage recording in the event of a communications failure between White Sands, Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), and Johnson Space Center (JSC).

(5) A weekly user spacecraft orbit determination in NASA standard orbital elements as determined by NASA for TDRSS target acquisition purposes.

(6) Delivery of user data at the NASA Ground Terminal (NGT) located at White Sands.

(7) Pre-launch support for data flow test and related activities which require use of a TDRS.

(8) Pre-launch support planning and documentation.

(9) Scheduling user services via TDRSS.

(10) Access to tracking data to enable users to perform orbit determination at their option.

(b) *Mission unique services.* Other tracking and data services desired by the user beyond the standard service and the charges therefor, will be identified and assessed on a case-by-case basis.

§ 1215.104 Apportionment and assignment of services.

No user may apportion, assign, or otherwise convey to any third party its TDRSS service. Each user may obtain service only through contractual agreement with the Associate Administrator for Space Operations.

[56 FR 28048, June 19, 1991]

§ 1215.105 Delivery of user data.

(a) As a standard service, NASA will provide to the user its data from the TDRSS as determined by NASA in the form of one or more digital or analog bit streams synchronized to associated clock streams at the NGT.

(b) User data handling requirements beyond the NGT interface will be provided as a standard service to the user, to the extent that the requirements do not exceed NASA's planned standard communications system. Any additional data transport or handling requirements exceeding NASA's capability will be dealt with as a mission-unique service.

(c) No storage of the user data is provided in the standard service. NASA will provide short-term temporary recording of data at White Sands, only in event of a NASA Communications Network (NASCOM) link outage.

(d) NASA will provide TDRSS services on a ''reasonable efforts'' basis and, accordingly, will not be liable for damages of any kind to the user or third parties for any reason, including but not limited to failure to provide contracted-for services. The price for TDRSS services does not include a contingency or premium for any potential damages. The user will assume any risk of damages or obtain insurance to protect against any risk.

[48 FR 9845, Mar. 9, 1983, as amended at 56 FR 28049, June 19, 1991]

§ 1215.106 User command and tracking data.

(a) User command data may enter the TDRSS via the NASCOM interface at one of three locations:

(1) For Shuttle payloads which utilize the Shuttle commanding system, command data must enter the system via the Johnson Space Center (JSC) and is governed by the policies established for STS services (see § 1215.101).

(2) For free flyers and other payloads, command data must enter the system at the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) if it is to be a standard service.

(3) The use of other command data entry points [e.g., the NASA Ground Terminal (NGT) at White Sands, NM, or Johnson Space Center (JSC), for payloads using an independent direct link from TDRS to the user payload] is considered to be a mission unique service.

(b) NASA is required to maintain the user satellite orbital elements to sufficient accuracy to permit the TDRS system to establish and maintain acquisition. This can be accomplished in two ways:

(1) The user can provide the orbital elements in a NASA format to GSFC to meet TDRSS operational requirements.

(2) The user shall insure that a sufficient quantity of tracking data is received at GSFC to permit the determination of the user satellite orbital elements. The charges for this service will be determined by using the on-orbit service rates.

§ 1215.107 User data security and frequency authorizations.

(a) User data security is not provided by the TDRSS. Responsibility for data security resides solely with the user. Users desiring data safeguards shall provide and operate, external to the TDRSS, the necessary equipment or systems to accomplish data security. Any such user provisions must be compatible with data flow through TDRSS and not interfere with other users.